

CAPC

Connecticut Association of Probate Clerks

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President, Danbury

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February 13, 2015

TO: Members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee
RE: H.B. No. 5860, AN ACT RECOGNIZING PROBATE COURT EMPLOYEES AS STATE EMPLOYEES

Dear Committee Members:

My name is Patricia Saviano, and I am the President of the Connecticut Association of Probate Clerks (hereinafter "CAPC"). I am also the Chief Clerk of the Danbury Probate Court. CAPC is a voluntary organization comprised of approximately 246 members; which is about seventy-percent (70%) of the total 336 employees in the probate system. Our mission is to further and promote the interest of all probate clerks, assistant clerks, and court staff in State of Connecticut Probate System through professional development, education, the open exchange of ideas, the collection and distribution of information, and advocacy.

As the President of CAPC, I can testify that less than 15% of our membership have expressed views in favor of the changes suggested in H.B. 5860. Conversely, approximately 15% have expressed views against the changes proposed in this Bill. Thus, leaving a super majority of our members unresolved or unexpressed over the specific issues. To say the least, CAPC membership remains divided and undecided on the proposed Bill. As a group, we are bound by our Bylaws, and pursuant to those instructions, we must remain neutral without a clear membership majority one way or the other. At best, we could express the opinion that there has been no significant change in the position of CAPC or its Membership since the first suggestion of the issues identified in this Bill.

On a final note, I feel it is necessary to inform the committee that CAPC was not a part of the creation nor development of this particular Bill and so we can only assume it is being proposed from a source outside the probate system or by individuals in their own capacity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm Regards,

/s/

Patricia Saviano